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Consumer Price Index, Honolulu Area — March 2022

Area prices were up 2.4 percent over the past two months, up 7.5 percent from a year ago

Prices in the Honolulu area, as measured by the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U), advanced 2.4 percent for the two months ending in March 2022, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. (See [table A](#).) Regional Commissioner Chris Rosenlund noted that the March increase was influenced by higher prices for shelter and gasoline. (Data in this report are not seasonally adjusted. Accordingly, bi-monthly changes may reflect seasonal influences.)

Over the last 12 months, the CPI-U rose 7.5 percent. (See [chart 1](#) and [table A](#).) Food prices advanced 9.5 percent. Energy prices jumped 32.6 percent, largely the result of an increase in the price of gasoline. The index for all items less food and energy increased 5.3 percent over the year. (See [table 1](#).)

Chart 1. Over-the-year percent change in CPI-U, Urban Hawaii, March 2019–March 2022

Month	All items	All items less food and energy
Mar 2019	1.8	2.1
May 2019	2.1	1.8
Jul 2019	1.6	1.6
Sep 2019	1.1	1.3
Nov 2019	0.9	1.5
Jan 2020	1.7	1.7
Mar 2020	1.8	2.0
May 2020	1.3	1.4
Jul 2020	1.3	1.4
Sep 2020	1.9	1.9
Nov 2020	1.6	1.8
Jan 2021	1.4	1.4
Mar 2021	1.8	0.9
May 2021	3.8	3.3
Jul 2021	4.6	3.8
Sep 2021	5.0	4.1
Nov 2021	5.4	3.4
Jan 2022	6.0	3.9
Mar 2022	7.5	5.3

Food

Food prices increased 1.4 percent for the two months ending in March. (See [table 1](#).) Prices for food at home increased 1.5 percent, led by higher prices for fruits and vegetables (5.5 percent) and other food at home (5.4 percent). Prices for food away from home rose 1.2 percent for the same period.

Over the year, food prices advanced 9.5 percent. Prices for food at home increased 11.7 percent since a year ago as all six major grocery store food indexes increased. Prices for food away from home advanced 6.6 percent.

Energy

The energy index jumped 10.7 percent for the two months ending in March. The increase was mainly due to higher prices for gasoline (14.6 percent). Prices for natural gas service rose 8.1 percent, and prices for electricity advanced 6.1 percent for the same period.

Energy prices jumped 32.6 percent over the year, largely due to higher prices for gasoline (38.9 percent). Prices paid for electricity rose 25.0 percent, and prices for natural gas service advanced 21.4 percent during the past year.

All items less food and energy

The index for all items less food and energy rose 1.8 percent in the latest two-month period. Higher prices for apparel (4.8 percent) and shelter (2.3 percent) were partially offset by lower prices for alcohol beverages (-2.3 percent), recreation (-0.5 percent) and household furnishings and operations (-0.5 percent).

Over the year, the index for all items less food and energy increased 5.3 percent. Components contributing to the increase included new and used motor vehicles (14.1 percent), apparel (5.2 percent), and shelter (5.0 percent). Partly offsetting the increases was a price decrease in alcoholic beverages (-2.2 percent).

Table A. Urban Hawaii CPI-U 2-month and 12-month percent changes, all items index, not seasonally adjusted

Month	2019		2020		2021		2022	
	2-month	12-month	2-month	12-month	2-month	12-month	2-month	12-month
January.....	-0.2	1.9	0.5	1.7	0.3	1.4	0.9	6.0
March	0.5	1.8	0.6	1.8	0.9	1.8	2.4	7.5
May.....	0.7	2.1	0.2	1.3	2.1	3.8		
July	-0.1	1.6	0.0	1.3	0.8	4.6		
September.....	0.1	1.1	0.6	1.9	1.0	5.0		
November.....	0.1	0.9	-0.2	1.6	0.1	5.4		

The May 2022 Consumer Price Index for the Honolulu area is scheduled to be released on June 10, 2022.

Technical Note

The Consumer Price Index (CPI) is a measures of the average change in prices over time in a fixed market basket of goods and services. The Bureau of Labor Statistics publishes CPIs for two population groups: (1) a CPI for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) which covers approximately 93 percent of the total U.S. population and (2) a CPI for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) which covers approximately 29 percent of the total U.S. population. The CPI-U includes, in addition to wage earners and clerical workers, groups such as professional, managerial, and technical workers, the self-employed, short-term workers, the unemployed, and retirees and others not in the labor force.

The CPI is based on prices of food, clothing, shelter, and fuels, transportation fares, charges for doctors' and dentists' services, drugs, and the other goods and services that people buy for day-to-day living. Each month, prices are collected in 75 urban areas across the country from about 6,000 housing units and approximately

22,000 retail establishments—department stores, supermarkets, hospitals, filling stations, and other types of stores and service establishments. All taxes directly associated with the purchase and use of items are included in the index.















































The index measures price changes from a designated reference date; for most of the CPI-U the reference base is 1982-84 equals 100. An increase of 7 percent from the reference base, for example, is shown as 107.000. Alternatively, that relationship can also be expressed as the price of a base period market basket of goods and services rising from \$100 to \$107. For further details see the CPI home page on the Internet at www.bls.gov/cpi and the CPI section of the BLS Handbook of Methods available on the internet at www.bls.gov/opub/hom/cpi/.

In calculating the index, price changes for the various items in each location are averaged together with weights that represent their importance in the spending of the appropriate population group. Local data are then combined to obtain a U.S. city average. Because the sample size of a local area is smaller, the local area index is subject to substantially more sampling and other measurement error than the national index. In addition, local indexes are not adjusted for seasonal influences. As a result, local area indexes show greater volatility than the national index, although their long-term trends are quite similar. **NOTE: Area indexes do not measure differences in the level of prices between cities; they only measure the average change in prices for each area since the base period.**

The Urban Hawaii area covered in this release consists of Honolulu in the State of Hawaii.











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Table 1. Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U): Indexes and percent changes for selected periods Urban Hawaii (1982-84=100 unless otherwise noted)

Item and Group	Indexes				Percent change from-		
	Historical data	Jan. 2022	Feb. 2022	Mar. 2022	Mar. 2021	Jan. 2022	Feb. 2022
Expenditure category							
All items.....		304.988	-	312.158	7.5	2.4	-
All items (1967=100).....		839.625	-	859.362	-	-	-
Food and beverages.....		329.071	-	333.063	8.9	1.2	-
Food.....		330.202	-	334.866	9.5	1.4	-
Food at home.....		329.219	326.719	334.315	11.7	1.5	2.3
Cereals and bakery products.....		367.859	-	366.472	14.6	-0.4	-
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs.....		339.368	-	332.048	14.7	-2.2	-
Dairy and related products.....		255.977	-	251.493	4.0	-1.8	-
Fruits and vegetables.....		380.380	-	401.456	12.5	5.5	-
Nonalcoholic beverages and beverage materials(1).....		444.774	-	439.545	15.2	-1.2	-
Other food at home.....		300.203	-	316.550	8.7	5.4	-
Food away from home.....		321.251	-	325.089	6.6	1.2	-
Alcoholic beverages.....		308.860	-	301.723	-2.2	-2.3	-
Housing.....		328.557	-	336.185	5.9	2.3	-
Shelter.....		356.743	358.163	365.048	5.0	2.3	1.9
Rent of primary residence(2).....		353.026	354.821	356.464	4.2	1.0	0.5
Owners' equiv. rent of residences(2).....		366.327	366.675	367.828	2.7	0.4	0.3
Owners' equiv. rent of primary residence(2).....		366.327	366.675	367.828	2.7	0.4	0.3
Fuels and utilities.....		403.743	-	420.628	15.8	4.2	-
Household energy.....		327.542	340.705	348.358	25.3	6.4	2.2
Energy services.....		320.826	333.984	340.725	24.9	6.2	2.0
Electricity.....		317.110	329.847	336.488	25.0	6.1	2.0
Utility (piped) gas service.....		337.885	357.596	365.171	21.4	8.1	2.1
Household furnishings and operations.....		159.911	-	159.150	3.9	-0.5	-
Apparel.....		107.499	-	112.673	5.2	4.8	-
Transportation.....		251.521	-	264.540	18.2	5.2	-
Private transportation.....		261.760	-	274.426	19.8	4.8	-
New and used motor vehicles(3).....		120.367	-	121.508	14.1	0.9	-
New vehicles(1).....		176.084	-	174.901	5.0	-0.7	-
Used cars and trucks(1).....		354.986	-	352.769	33.7	-0.6	-
Motor fuel.....		338.191	348.938	387.808	38.9	14.7	11.1
Gasoline (all types).....		347.149	358.209	398.002	38.9	14.6	11.1
Gasoline, unleaded regular(4).....		359.916	371.587	413.720	39.3	14.9	11.3
Gasoline, unleaded midgrade(4)(5).....		288.766	297.576	328.962	39.6	13.9	10.5
Gasoline, unleaded premium(4).....		327.447	337.108	371.353	36.8	13.4	10.2
Medical care.....		-	-	-	-	-	-
Recreation(3).....		142.055	-	141.413	4.4	-0.5	-
Education and communication(3).....		151.111	-	151.217	0.4	0.1	-
Tuition, other school fees, and child care(1).....		1,877.829	-	1,877.829	2.0	0.0	-
Other goods and services.....		524.439	-	539.058	3.8	2.8	-
Commodity and service group							
All items.....		304.988	-	312.158	7.5	2.4	-
Commodities.....		232.199	-	238.356	11.9	2.7	-
Commodities less food & beverages.....		174.085	-	180.864	14.9	3.9	-
Nondurables less food & beverages.....		216.630	-	234.287	18.6	8.2	-
Durables.....		126.395	-	125.694	11.2	-0.6	-
Services.....		368.869	-	377.017	5.4	2.2	-

Note: See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U): Indexes and percent changes for selected periods Urban Hawaii (1982-84=100 unless otherwise noted) - Continued

Item and Group	Indexes				Percent change from-		
	Historical data	Jan. 2022	Feb. 2022	Mar. 2022	Mar. 2021	Jan. 2022	Feb. 2022
Special aggregate indexes							
All items less medical care		296.644	-	303.699	7.5	2.4	-
All items less shelter.....		283.230	-	289.934	9.3	2.4	-
Commodities less food		178.983	-	185.463	14.0	3.6	-
Nondurables		275.209	-	285.645	12.4	3.8	-
Nondurables less food.....		222.374	-	238.570	16.7	7.3	-
Services less rent of shelter(2).....		382.220	-	389.843	5.9	2.0	-
Services less medical care services.....		359.443	-	367.842	5.5	2.3	-
Energy		331.641	343.521	367.030	32.6	10.7	6.8
All items less energy		305.265	-	310.625	6.0	1.8	-
All items less food and energy		302.582	-	308.078	5.3	1.8	-

Footnotes

(1) Indexes on a December 1977=100 base.

(2) Indexes on a December 1982=100 base.

(3) Indexes on a December 1997=100 base.

(4) Special index based on a substantially smaller sample.

(5) Indexes on a December 1993=100 base.

- Data not available

NOTE: Index applies to a month as a whole, not to any specific date.